

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No  
PCT/GB2005/000699

**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**  
IPC 7 B65D83/14

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

**B. FIELDS SEARCHED**

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)  
IPC 7 B65D

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5 971 230 A (TANAKA ET AL) 26 October 1999 (1999-10-26)	1-12,20
Y	column 11, line 43 – column 14, line 60; figures 14-19,24,26	18,19
A	-----	13
A	US 6 494 349 B1 (THOMPSON HAROLD RAND ET AL) 17 December 2002 (2002-12-17) column 4, line 62 – column 5, line 9; figures 12,13	1
X	US 3 884 399 A (MATERN ET AL) 20 May 1975 (1975-05-20)	1-6,
Y	column 1, line 51 – column 2, line 53; figures 1,4,8	14-17,20 18,19
	-----	



Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.



Patent family members are listed in annex.

\* Special categories of cited documents:

- \*A\* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- \*E\* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- \*L\* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- \*O\* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- \*P\* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- \*T\* later document published after the International filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- \*X\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- \*Y\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- \*&\* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

8 August 2005

Date of mailing of the International search report

05.10.2005

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2  
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk  
Tel (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,  
Fax (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Augustin, W

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

ational application No.  
PCT/GB2005/000699

## Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1.  Claims Nos.: because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
  
2.  Claims Nos.: because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
  
3.  Claims Nos.: because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

## Box III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

see additional sheet

1.  As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
  
2.  As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
  
3.  As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:

1-20

4.  No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

### Remark on Protest

The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.

No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 1-13,20

Valve assembly, dispensing apparatus comprising spacer means in the form of a rotatably mounted collar (figs. 1-7)  
---

2. claims: 14-19

Valve assembly, dispensing apparatus comprising spacer means which limit the lateral movement (figs. 8-10)  
---

3. claims: 21-30

Valve assembly, dispensing apparatus comprising spacer means provided on a lever that actuates the valve (figs. 11-18)  
---

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No  
PCT/GB2005/000699

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)		Publication date
US 5971230	A	26-10-1999	NONE		
US 6494349	B1	17-12-2002	AT	277838 T	15-10-2004
			AU	3079501 A	30-05-2001
			BR	0015591 A	09-07-2002
			CA	2390114 A1	25-05-2001
			DE	60014417 D1	04-11-2004
			EP	1232104 A2	21-08-2002
			EP	1516830 A1	23-03-2005
			ES	2230180 T3	01-05-2005
			MX	PA02004907 A	14-10-2003
			WO	0136275 A2	25-05-2001
			US	2003075571 A1	24-04-2003
US 3884399	A	20-05-1975	FR	2191446 A5	01-02-1974
			AT	323045 B	25-06-1975
			BE	801389 A1	26-12-1973
			CA	981226 A1	06-01-1976
			CH	571896 A5	30-01-1976
			DE	2332497 A1	24-01-1974
			ES	218091 Y	16-01-1978
			GB	1426400 A	25-02-1976
			IT	991642 B	30-08-1975
			JP	49085613 A	16-08-1974
			LU	67873 A1	11-04-1975
			NL	7309420 A	08-01-1974